Abstract

A system and method is presented utilizing a set of software tools for the graphical definition of top-down workflow process models. Once defined, these models are completely useable enterprise applications that

5   can be deployed in real-time without interrupting current business operations. The present invention has three main components: the process designer, the process server, and the process clients. The process designer allows users to define the business processes from the top down without programming. The process definitions are made up of components, such

10   as tasks and subprocesses. Tasks are work items that are performed either by a human or automatically by an existing system. Tasks in the present invention incorporate all GUI panels necessary for an end-user to complete the task. Events link the process components together, defining control flow and providing a means for data flow through the process

15   model. Process models also include roles, end-users, business logic, and other components that allow parallel processing, synchronization, and timing of services. Adapters allow business data and logic external to the present invention to be incorporated into the process model. The process model definitions are then installed on the process server, which presents

20   the tasks to end-users. End-users access and perform tasks through the process clients.